




President's Message

Working in Afghanistan, I meet countless people who talk about what might happen here, or about what they hope will happen. It makes me proud to work at this university, where things do happen: students are pursuing their choice of three different majors, talented faculty are opening minds to new possibilities, and the campus is working to accommodate the ever increasing numbers of male and female students who flock to the classrooms of AUAF.

Cont'd on page 1

AU
AF
2011 Yearbook Vol.1

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY *of* AFGHANISTAN

The background of the image is a detailed wooden relief carving. It features a repeating pattern of stylized floral and geometric motifs. The design includes swirling acanthus leaves, circular medallions, and intricate knotwork. The wood is a warm, light brown color, and the carving is deep, creating a three-dimensional effect. The overall style is reminiscent of traditional Islamic or Persian woodwork.

The American University of Afghanistan is an independent, non-sectarian, nonprofit coeducational university modeled on the great American universities in Beirut, Cairo, and elsewhere in the Middle East and Europe. It values free expression, tolerance, mutual respect, critical inquiry, and academic rigor within the Afghan cultural context and within the protections afforded by the Constitution of Afghanistan. Its curriculum follows the American liberal arts tradition, with professional study in fields especially needed in Afghanistan.



Cont'd from Cover

Looking back over the past few years, it is clear that it took a tremendous amount of energy to make AUAF itself a reality. These facilities we enjoy today, including our renovated buildings, our computer labs, and our 10,000-volume library, exist because of the hard work of a dedicated faculty and staff determined to make things happen. That we have more than 750 men and women enrolled is testament to the power of their vision to help Afghanistan realize a more peaceful and tolerant future by creating an institution where the country's next generation of leaders can receive a world-class education and reach their full potential.

With our first graduation upon us, those students leaving us will soon be applying the knowledge gained here to advancing their families, their communities, and their country. At this milestone moment in the university's young life, let us take stock of what we have accomplished, and move forward knowing that our work here meets Afghanistan's needs today and tomorrow.

Dr. C. Michael Smith
President

The curriculum is world-standard. I wanted to study in India and I went to visit universities there. While I was in India, a friend called to tell me that a world-class university had just opened in Kabul. So I came home, to AUAF, to study. I admire the professors. I love some of them.

Asadullah Tegdalah
Undergraduate

Mission

The American University of Afghanistan is dedicated to providing world class higher education for the development of Afghanistan and the region.



From the Founder

I am fortunate enough to have watched the interest in education at all levels spread across Afghanistan, from Kabul to Herat, Mazar-i-Sharif to Kandahar. It was not always clear that this desire for learning and intellectual advancement would win out over those determined to pull my country backwards in time. Yet education is now powerfully on the march, a clear study in contrast to those long dark days in recent history where schools were shuttered and the Afghan educational system all but completely destroyed. Millions of students now attend school every day. Better still, women are a sizable part of this new generation.

First as the Minister of Higher Education after the fall of the Taliban regime and now as the Founder of AUAF, I'm proud to have done my part to begin the process of recovering Afghanistan's intellectual capital. I look forward to seeing what our graduates contribute to the development of Afghanistan.

Dr. Sharif Fayez
Founding President



Western style education has instilled self-confidence and a strong sense of self-worth in our female students which they state is not available anywhere else in the country. The experience of attending AUAF can help Afghan females to have an opportunity to cultivate themselves and in turn acquire the skills to elevate the status of women in society.

Dr. Bahar Jalali
Assistant Professor of History

An AUAF education imbues students with an idea essential for a well functioning democracy: People can disagree while maintaining mutual respect. AUAF graduates surely will someday occupy positions of influence in Afghanistan. And when they do, they will teach this idea by example. I consider my work at AUAF the capstone of my career.

Dr. Dale Larson
Assistant Professor of Economics

It has been refreshing to work with students who actually want to stay in their own country and contribute to its development and improvement. For many of them the decision to study here has not been taken lightly by either themselves or their families. With more than a degree of admiration, I can say that they are some of the most determined, brave, enthusiastic and interesting young men and women that I have ever had the pleasure of working with.

Helen Kilner-MacPhee
Instructor, FSP



A U A F T I

The university implements its first vision and academic plans, and begins offering summer courses.

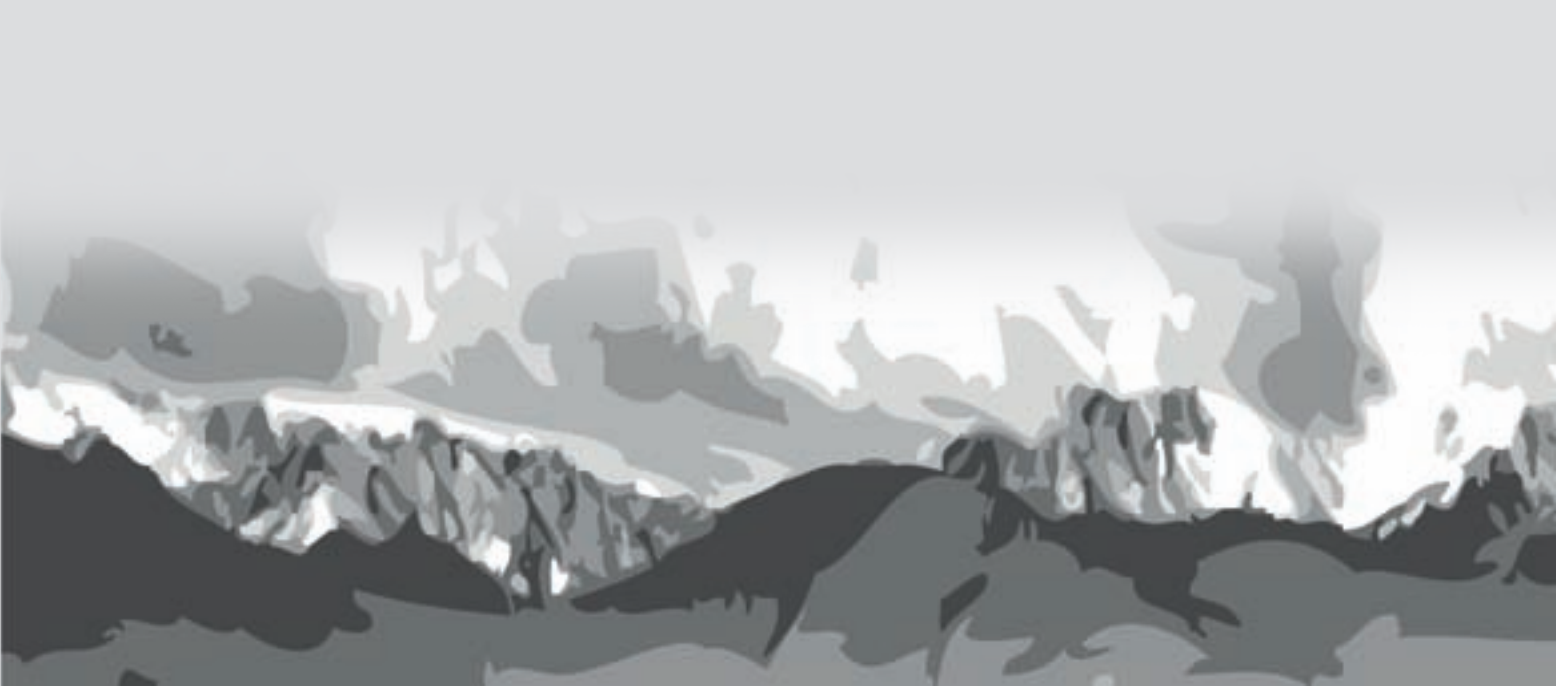
2006

In March, AUAF admits its first group of 53 students to its Foundation Studies Program. In September, the first credit-bearing Undergraduate Program courses are offered, along with the first Professional Development Institute courses.

2007

2008

In June, U.S. First Lady Laura Bush announces \$42 million in funding from USAID over five years. By the end of the year, enrollment reaches almost 350 students.



M E L I N E

In August, Dr. C. Michael Smith is named president. Through a USAID grant, AUAF installs a state-of-the-art e-learning facility so that students can benefit from collaboration with other universities. Support from the Bayat Foundation contributes to campus renovations.

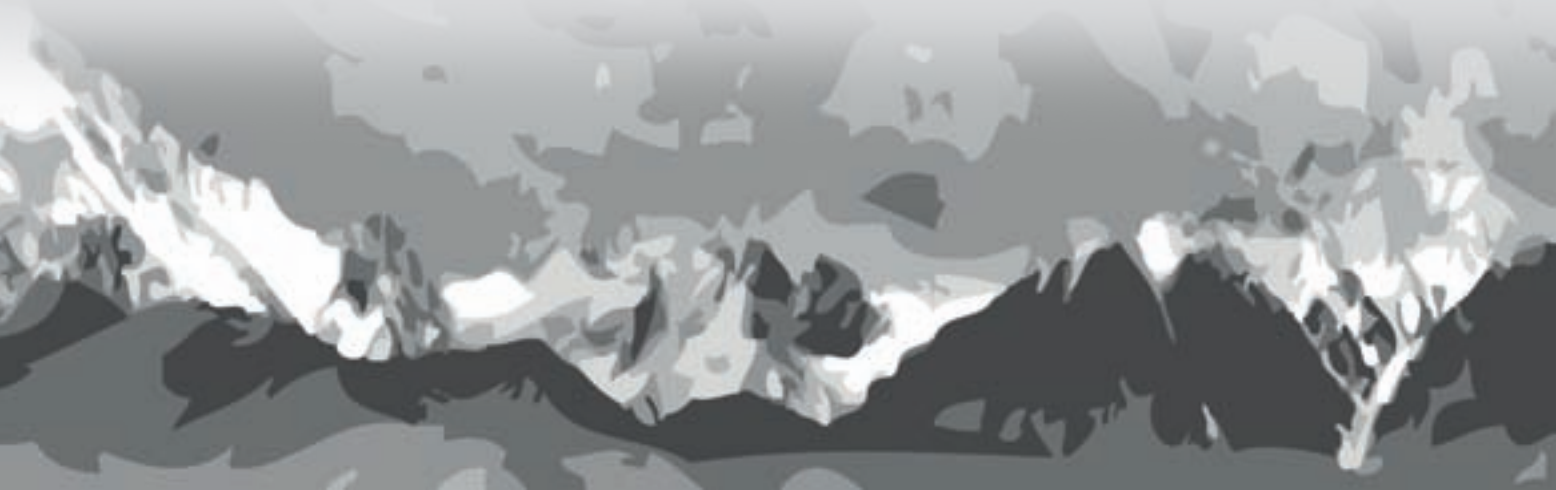
The university opens the spring semester in January with its first convocation. Enrollment rises to 789 students, including 21 percent women.

2009

2010

2011

Enrollment increases to 550 students. New degree programs—the Bachelor of Business Administration, Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Public Administration—are approved by the Board of Trustees. The design of the new campus is completed with support from USAID.



H O W I T A

Undergraduate

The Undergraduate Program is the largest of the university's programs, and includes all the university's students working toward a degree. AUAF offers bachelor's degrees in business administration, computer science, and public administration and political science. Students enrolled in the Undergraduate Program must complete two components – General Education, a common group of basic courses that explores the foundations of various academic disciplines, and the Major, a specific group of courses focused on the academic discipline in which the student is pursuing a degree.



Legal Studies

The Legal Studies Program was designed in cooperation with the Afghanistan Legal Education Project at Stanford Law School (ALEP). The syllabus introduces learners to the profession of law while providing them with a sound understanding of its role in society. Students graduate with a clear awareness of the legal challenges they will face in their careers, trained to work within the law to meet those challenges. Equipped with essential knowledge and analytical skills, Legal Studies graduates will be primed to take leading roles both in their communities and chosen professions.

Foundation Studies Program

The Foundation Studies Program was the first to enroll students at AUAF. It is designed for students who have graduated from high school but who need to improve their English and academic skills before entering the all-English Undergraduate Program. The FSP helps students refine their listening, speaking, and reading skills and improve their writing ability and other skills to ensure their success in their undergraduate studies.

LLWORKS



Professional Development Institute

The Professional Development Institute offers courses to adult Afghan learners from a range of educational backgrounds and with varying levels of English proficiency. Students are often employed as staff and management in government ministries, local NGOs, and other agencies engaged in reconstruction efforts in Kabul and the provinces. PDI's specialized, non-degree courses are designed to improve both language and workplace skills, including management and leadership training.

Master of Business Administration

Beginning this fall, AUAU will open its first graduate program. Building upon the strengths of AUAU's popular undergraduate business program, the Master of Business Administration program will offer the advanced coursework needed to prepare students for leadership positions in business and industry, for serving in senior posts in NGOs, or for launching or strengthening their own businesses.

10,000 Women Initiative

The American University of Afghanistan, in partnership with The Goldman Sachs Foundation and the Thunderbird School of Global Management, is proud to be the host for the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women Initiative in Afghanistan. Through the Initiative, women entrepreneurs receive a customized business education that includes classes in marketing, strategic planning, accounting, accessing capital, market research, e-commerce, and writing business plans. These pragmatic, short-term courses help open doors for women who would not otherwise have access to a business education. Students are offered mentoring and post-graduation support by partner institutions, local businesses, and the people of Goldman Sachs.

In my two semesters here, I have enjoyed the challenges that working in Kabul entails, thanks largely to students who are eager to learn and responsive to the challenge to think independently. Helping writers develop in another language is not an easy task, but the progress has been tangible and rewarding.

Mathew Dallaway
Instructor, FSP

I chose to work at AUAF because there is an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young Afghans. Because young Afghans need, want, and deserve a better life.

Dr. Rod Monger
Associate Professor of Business

I lived in Afghanistan from 1975-76 in Helmand Province. I came to admire the people, their history and resilience. When the events of the past 30 years were taking place, I felt as if they were happening to me. As this new country began to emerge and the opportunity came to return and do some little part to help rebuild it, I jumped at it. AUAF seemed the perfect place to be. I have not been disappointed.

Bonnie Armantrout
Interim Department Chair, FSP

I like the way our teachers think; they're aware of more issues, their intellectual scope is broader and they're better educated than most other college level instructors in Kabul.

Mirwais Omar
UG

I like that the university is open to female students. We're treated the same as the men -- there is no prejudice here. And the male students accept the females. It's great.

Romah Maryam
FSP

A broad-based liberal arts education better prepares students for an ever-changing world. Perhaps the most important feature of the curriculum at AUAF is that it prepares students to think and solve problems.

Dr. Joyce Killen Shah
Professor of Biology



STUDENT CLUBS

Student clubs and organizations are recognized through official processes and are approved by the Student Government. Active this year:

Model UN

Women's Aerobics Club

Soccer Club

Music Club

Women's Basketball

Democrats

Business Club

Chess Club

Cricket Club

Service-Learning Club

Spanish Club

CEPPS/IFES Debate Club

Art Club

Photography Club

Ludus Club -- social activities

Female Volleyball



New

With the existing campus already nearing its capacity, the AUAF community is eagerly looking forward to the first permanent construction on the new campus. Beginning right after graduation, work will begin on the first major academic building on the new campus and on new faculty and staff housing. The first permanent women's residence hall will follow shortly thereafter. Watch for the new campus to look very different by the summer of 2012.



LEGEND:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| ① Central Plaza - Maiden | ⑤ Faculty/Staff Housing | ⑧ Maintenance Service Facilities | ⑬ University Park |
| ② Academic Facilities | ④ Female Student Housing | ⑩ Visitor Parking | ⑭ Shrine Compound |
| ③ Support Facilities | ⑦ Male Student Housing | ⑪ Resident Parking | ⑮ Existing Campus |
| ④ Athletic Facilities | ⑥ Recreation Field | ⑫ Mixed-Use Development | |

Campus



nd
s Facilities



Voices of Support

I know many of my colleagues have plans to travel to Afghanistan to visit with our troops. I would encourage all of you to take some time to learn about this university which is one of the unsung efforts we have undertaken in Afghanistan.

Daniel Inouye
U.S. Senator

One of the benefits of an AUAF education is that students will learn more about the culture of Americans in particular, and western nations in general. Another benefit for us is introducing our culture to outsiders, giving them a better understanding of our behavior and the limits of change under the present circumstances. Such close contact helps increase self-awareness and gives us an opportunity to review our behavior. We can then try to reform and remove those parts which are self-defeating and against the true Islamic teachings and dignity of humanity. Introducing modern values of a democracy has been needed, and it is far easier to enhance this process through contact and being within the system of institutions such as AUAF.

Eng Pashtun
Parent



I had the privilege of talking at the American University of Afghanistan (AUAF) this spring, where I delivered a lecture entitled ‘The Future of Kabul City.’ While I emphasized basic infrastructure projects including paved roads, city parks and streetlights for Kabul residents, I also made it clear that I was interested in creating and utilizing an increasingly educated and capable workforce. AUAF is a big part of this. As an institution dedicated to producing world-class graduates in business, information technology, and public administration, with full command of the English language, AUAF is making a significant contribution to the future of Kabul and Afghanistan by restoring intellectual capital. I am honored to have AUAF in Kabul, and look forward to seeing what its graduates are capable of.”

His Excellency M.Y. Nawandish
Mayor, Kabul



Not very many years ago, a university with AUAF’s mission could not have existed here in Kabul. Today, it is both a source and a symbol of Afghanistan’s progress. The founding of AUAF represented a critical step in the effort to lead Afghanistan into an era of freedom and opportunity. That transition is a difficult one. But institutions like this one will play a central role in securing Afghanistan’s future.

Neal S. Wolin
U.S. Deputy Treasury Secretary



Changes

Just a few short years ago, AUAF's entire educational program was contained within the walls of the recently renovated Azizi Building. Today AUAF offers students a chance to study in one of Afghanistan's best-equipped universities. And with serious construction soon to begin on the new campus, the future of AUAF facilities has never looked brighter.



Students at AUAF are exposed to new ideas and are made to work together regardless of ethnicity. They're made aware of the benefits of women's participation and the importance of diversity, and are exposed to the importance of ethics being integrated into every aspect of their lives.

Otilie English
Instructor, Business and Economics

Other universities expect students to memorize what they've read. There is no memorization at AUAF. The faculty encourages students to express their ideas and opinions. And the instructors treat everyone equally, men and women alike.

Yalda Samih
FSP





I chose AUAF because I wanted to learn from the most current materials – not textbooks that were printed before I was born.

Reza Fadaei
UG

Most of the teachers at AUAF have international experience and most have PhDs. It's also interesting to see that teachers and students are friendly. For me I think it's better than any other university in Afghanistan.

Ali Reza Hasanzada
FSP



On the Move

One in five people in Afghanistan are between the ages of seven and twelve, swelling into the world's largest proportions of school-age children. How this population of students is managed and developed will have enormous implications for the future of Afghanistan.

Over the last ten years, student numbers have soared and females make up a significant portion of this eager generation.

Record numbers of students are applying to universities and new schools created with the support of the international community are meeting the surge. With investment from Afghan ministries, the higher education system is beginning to respond. They know, and the world knows, these graduates are critical to Afghanistan's future stability, at home and throughout the region. Education is on the move in Afghanistan.

T E A M

The people wh

Information Technology

Tasked with keeping the Internet moving, the 350 computers in labs up and running, and assisting students and faculty with hundreds of personal laptops, the IT Department has its work cut out for it. With issues ranging from frozen screens to print failures to network outages, the guys in IT are always on the move. Their swift, mystifyingly complex procedures are always followed by sighs of relief. The quality and reliability of computing services and the Internet have increased dramatically in the last few months, and more services (like online voting for student elections) are rolling out every month. IT keeps us connected.

Transport

More than simply getting faculty from Guesthouse to campus, the Transport Department might better be described as the university's "wheels of life". Despite weather, traffic (slow moving grid-lock), checkpoints and roads pitted with knee-deep craters, the men in Transport get us where we need to get – shopping, the tailor's, coffee houses, the barber, Chicken Street, restaurants, the French Bakery, and medical clinics. When the season and security are in optimistic alignment, they arrange trips to Istalif, Panshir Valley, or Jalabad. The two essential attributes of an AUAF driver, besides skill, are patience and persistence. An unbeatable combination when you "absolutely positively have to get there".



Human Resources

Responsible for visas, work permits, and settling newly arrived staff and faculty into life in Afghanistan, the Human Resources Department always has work to do. The men of HR can usually be found answering questions about policies and explaining how the various Afghan ministries work, though they often help out with plane ticket purchases as well, keeping those who work at AUAF both in compliance with Afghan law and well informed.

W O R K

o keep it going



Library

A library is the academic heart of any university, but the Bernice Nachman Marlowe Library is more than that. This inviting facility and its friendly and helpful staff make the library one of the most popular – and most used – resources at AUAF

Cafeteria

Serving more than 600 meals daily, as well as bringing refreshments and snacks to lectures and meetings all across campus, the cafeteria staff know how to get it done. Under the watch of the head chef, a diverse menu featuring both Afghan and international dishes rolls out each day. The students and staff aren't complaining: Cafe AUAF reaches capacity during lunch and again in the evening, every seat taken. Growing like the rest of the university, the Cafeteria makes sure it gets it right through repeated food surveys, working tirelessly to create a menu both American and Afghan, both tasty and healthy.

Security

To move about safely in Kabul, the faculty and staff are wholly dependent on the expertise of the men in the Security Department. We depend upon the regularly updated security assessments, travel advisories, and the allegiance of our Security staff. The moment we leave the guest house or campus, our escorts are always within arm's reach. Whether it's grocery shopping, a hike up the Kabul hills or going to the bank, we are afforded complete, but unobtrusive protection. Their competence and commitment means we can relax, wherever we are, whatever we're doing.

Message from the Chairman

As a member of the Board of Trustees at AUAF since 2005, I have been privileged to observe every step of the university's growth, from a grand idea for meeting the needs of Afghanistan to the thriving institution that AUAF is today.

Back in 2005, there were some who questioned whether Afghanistan was ready for a private, Western-style institution of higher education stressing the values of tolerance, transparency, and equal opportunity. They were unsure whether such a university would be able to succeed given the challenges that it and its students would face. AUAF is still a young institution, and much growth and development still lie ahead. But I believe the question of AUAF's success has already been answered, by its steadily increasing enrollment, by its growing reputation for excellence, and by the graduation of its first class of outstanding young men and women. My heartiest congratulations go out to the members of the Class of 2011, our first graduating class. I am immensely proud of the faculty, staff, and students of AUAF, and it is an honor to serve as your board chair.

Dr. Akram Fazel
Chairman of the Board



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THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

AUAF is the grateful beneficiary of two major gifts that are making the university possible:

A five-year, \$42 million grant from the **U.S. Agency for International Development**.
A donation of more than 75 acres of land from the **Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan**.

In addition, two lead donors have made pledges in excess of \$1 million in cash and gifts in kind:

The **Bayat Foundation**, for construction of the main academic building on the new campus.
The **Hamid Qasemi Group**, for construction of faculty-staff housing and a women's residence hall on the new campus.

AUAF has been fortunate to receive a number of additional gifts from businesses, foundations, and generous individual donors. Listed below are some of the donors who have made gifts to AUAF of more than \$5,000. (In some cases donors have also pledged additional amounts that have not yet been received.)

We deeply appreciate our donors' belief in AUAF's mission and their desire to help the people of Afghanistan.

\$100,000 and Above

Anonymous
Bayat Foundation
Mirwais Azizi Hotak
The Sunshine Lady Foundation,
Inc.

\$50,000-\$100,000

Hossein Fateh
M. Luis Construction Co., Inc.
Mission Essential Personnel
Faud Muslim

\$25,000-\$50,000

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\$10,000-\$25,000

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Smith Richardson Foundation
Barbara Spier
Tawab Suratzada
Susan T. Whitfield
Margaret A. Williams

\$5,000-\$10,000

Afghan Chambers of Commerce
and Industry
Andrew Abendshein
Afghanistan Reconstruction
Company-Afghanistan Finance
Company
Ronnie Ben-Zur
Bingham McCutchen LLP
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Bob Bruni
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Susan Pence
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Kevin F. F. Quigley
Nasruddin Rupani
Joyce K. Shah
C. Michael Smith
Thomson Reuters
Zarghanna Walizada
Mark Wallace
Debra L. Zumwalt

I like the teachers' attitude at AUAF. I enjoy the way they communicate. In other words, the atmosphere here is like nowhere else in Afghanistan.

Harris Popalza
FSP



I chose AUAF for two reasons: I wanted to speak fluent English and go to a school with high standards and high expectations for its students.

Abdullah Sadat
UG



I think AUAF is a wonderful institution with a dynamic environment. It's great to see students of different ethnic groups comfortably interact with each other.

Hossain Yousufi
UG



American University is very different from other universities in Afghanistan. The instructors are better educated and treat all students equally.

Zahra Aziz
FSP

When I started AUAF, my life changed. I found new opportunities. The university has great facilities as well as great teachers.

Mustafa Payandehnik
FSP



AUAF is a very important part of my life. It's the only university that thinks about the future of their students.

Ahmad Maseh Atmar
FSP



I like the environment here. Anyone can express their opinion without fear. I think AUAF will help me reach my goal to become a woman lawyer.

Katayoon Khwahany
FSP



When I first came to AUAF I didn't have the courage to speak in class. But after one month I got used to being here. I like my teachers because they treat all students equally.

Mariam Jawad
FSP

After only one week I realized that AUAF is a safe place for students, especially for girls. The students are like a family with each other.

Hasina Kohistani
FSP



With an AUAF degree, I'll be ready for any job, in Afghanistan or anywhere else in the world.

Eisa Jadran
FSP



BEYOND 2011

AUAF has made tremendous strides since admitting its first students in 2006. But the university expects an even more impressive record of achievement in the years ahead, with continued growth in enrollment, expansion of academic programs, and the construction of world-class facilities on the new campus.

Be a part of the success story that is AUAF, and support us in educating the next generation of leaders for Afghanistan.

For more information, contact:

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